

Appl. No: 10/663,496
Amdt. dated: _____
Reply to Office Action of: Sep. 8, 2005

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments add no new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed.

Amendment to the Abstract

Please amend the abstract to read:

A cleaning tool with a handle and a cleaning head comprising a sponge, scrim and a one-piece flexible fitment having an engagement member adapted to removably engage a handle. Preferably, the scrim includes a cleaning composition having at least one surfactant. The cleaning composition can optionally include one or more bactericidal agents, bleaching agents, chelants, salts, coloring agents, fragrances and preservatives.

Newly added

New Claims 32-52 have been added.

Claim Objections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected Claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Johnson, Sr. (U.S. Patent No. 3,753,267).

Claim 31 has been cancelled.

For a proper rejection of a claim under section 102, the cited reference must disclose all elements, features, and steps of the claim. *See e.g., E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. v. Phillips Petroleum Co.*, 849 F.2d 1430, 7 U.S.P.Q.2d 1129 (Fed. Cir. 1988) (emphasis added).

New independent Claims 32, 39 and 46 have been drawn to a tool with a cleaning head. These claims all contain the limitation “the cleaning head being adapted to rotationally articulate relative to the handle.” Johnson, Sr. does not disclose all the elements of new Claims 32, 39, and 46.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

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The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 10-14, 16-26, 28 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson, Sr. (U.S. Patent 3,753,267) in view of Magyar (U.S. Patent 4,613,446). Claims 1, 10-14, 16-26, 28 and 30 have been cancelled.

New independent Claims 32, 39 and 46 have been drawn to a tool with a cleaning head. These claims all contain the limitation "the cleaning head being adapted to rotationally articulate relative to the handle." Johnson, Sr. and Magyar do not anticipate all the elements of new Claims 32, 39, and 46.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bolton (U.S. Pat. 1,994,939) in view of Siemund (U.S. Pat. 3,406,420). Claim 31 has been cancelled. New independent Claims 32, 39 and 46 have been drawn to a tool with a cleaning head. These claims all contain the limitation "the cleaning head being adapted to rotationally articulate relative to the handle." Bolton and Siemund do not anticipate all the elements of new Claims 32, 39, and 46.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. If, however, some issue remains which the Examiner feels may be addressed by Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned for authorization.

Please charge any additional fees, including fees for additional extensions of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03 2270.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: December 7, 2005

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